



3627

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of)

Group Unit 3627)

ISAO TOMON)

G. O'Connor, Examiner)

Serial No. 09/727,961)

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Filed December 1, 2000)

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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on this 9th day of March 2004

Norma J. Payerle
Norma J. Payerle, Secretary to Edward G. Greive

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.97(c)

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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GROUP 3600

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(c), after the mailing of the first Official Action, but before the mailing date of either a Final Action or Notice of Allowance.

Information or art known to the Applicant and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto. It lists one Japanese Patent Publication and its English abstract. The Applicant has employed Form PTO-1449 for the purpose of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a specific search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, that the information is non-cumulative, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicant does not admit that any of the information he has provided is necessarily prior to his invention but rather that it is information of which he is aware and that he believes should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of his duty of disclosure. Any question that may arise regarding priority of a specific reference shall be resolved during prosecution.

It is the position of the Applicant that none of the art provided herein accomplishes the objects of the present invention. The Applicant believes that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinct over the art of record. In the event the Examiner would care to discuss any of the foregoing more specifically, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1)

The undersigned hereby certifies:

That each item of information contained in this statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Therefore, no fees are believed due.

In the event that a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 18-0987

Respectfully submitted,



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